

Seabird Docent

Alcatraz Island

National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Volunteers-In-Parks
Golden Gate National Recreation Area



Alcatraz, notorious for the former federal penitentiary, is also the site of a very large and important breeding colony for several different sea bird species, including Western gulls. Also, the island is home to San Francisco Bay’s only Brandt’s cormorant rookery and one of its most important black-crowned night-heron rookeries. Alcatraz’s rookeries are among the most accessible, offering visitors abundant opportunities to observe avian natural history up close.

Job Title	Seabird Docent	
Location	Alcatraz Island, Golden Gate NRA	
Hours per month	4½ hours biweekly	
Description of Duties	During active seabird nesting season, from April 1 through September 1, you will assist visitors at Alcatraz Island in understanding the behavior, feeding, breeding, and ecology of seabird species that nest on the island. The docent will staff an outdoor station within view of a seabird colony, and explain the activities of the breeding populations to visitors, answering additional questions as needed. S/he will set up and tend a spotting scope, and/or lend binoculars to help visitors get a closer look at the seabirds, and gain a better appreciation of the colonies' dynamics.	
Responsibilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Staff wildlife viewing station• Explain current activities of breeding birds to visitors	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Tend spotting scope and binoculars for lending• Respond to visitor queries
Knowledge/Skills Desired	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Interest in wildlife• Good people skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Willingness to work in harsh (cold, windy, foggy, sometimes hot!) environment
Benefits	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Training in seabird biology, ecology	

Application Information:
GGNRA VIP Manager
(415) 561-4755
or
www.volunteer.gov/gov